

**MILBERG LLP**

Jonathan M. Landers  
Matthew Gluck  
Brad N. Friedman  
Sanford P. Dumain  
Jennifer L. Young  
One Pennsylvania Plaza  
48th Floor  
New York, NY 10119  
Telephone: (212) 594-5300  
Facsimile: (212) 868-1229

**SEEGER WEISS LLP**

Stephen A. Weiss  
Christopher M. Van DeKieft  
Parvin Aminolroaya  
One William Street  
New York, NY 10004  
Telephone: (212) 584-0700  
Facsimile: (212) 584-0799

*Attorneys for Leonora Thuna*

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION  
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT  
SECURITIES LLC,

Defendant.

Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (BRL)

SIPA Liquidation

**CORRECTED OBJECTION TO TRUSTEE'S DETERMINATION OF CLAIM**

Leonora Thuna, by and through her attorneys, hereby objects to the Notice of Trustee's Determination of Claim dated December 8, 2009 ("Determination Letter"), attached as Exhibit A, as described herein.

### **BACKGROUND**

1. On December 11, 2008, the above-captioned liquidation proceeding was commenced against BMIS, pursuant to SIPA. *See* Order, *Securities and Exchange Commission v. Madoff*, No. 08-10791 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 15, 2008) (ordering relief under SIPA and transferring proceeding to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York) [Dkt. No. 4]. Irving Picard was appointed Trustee (“BMIS Trustee”), charged with overseeing the liquidation of BMIS and processing customer claims for money pursuant to SIPA. *Id.*; *see also* 15 U.S.C. 78fff-1(a).

2. Ms. Thuna is an investor in Marloma Securities and, on information and belief (including information provided by Stanley Chais, principal of The Popham Company), Marloma Securities was an investor in The Popham Company, which is, upon information and belief, a “customer,” as defined by the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970 (“SIPA”), of BMIS. Thus, Ms. Thuna has an interest in certain claims belonging to The Popham Company in the BMIS liquidation proceeding.

3. On December 23, 2008, the Court issued an Order directing the Trustee to disseminate notice and claim forms to BMIS customers and setting forth claim-filing deadlines. *See* Order [Dkt. No. 12]. Upon information and belief, the BMIS Trustee disseminated notice and claim forms to BMIS’s customers in accordance with the Court’s Order.

4. The December 23, 2008 Order further provided that, to the extent the BMIS Trustee disagrees with the amount set forth on a customer claim form, the BMIS Trustee “shall notify such claimant by mail of his determination that the claim is disallowed, in whole or in part, *and the reason therefor . . .*” *See* Order at 6 (emphasis added) [Dkt. No. 12].

5. Upon information and belief, The Popham Company did not timely file a customer claim form and has not prosecuted its claim in the BMIS liquidation proceeding.

6. On or about January 14, 2009, Ms. Thuna submitted a customer claim form to SIPC, which was amended and supplemented on June 23, 2009. The claim was designated as Claim No. 000617 and/or 011768 by the BMIS Trustee (“Thuna Customer Claim”) (Exhibit B).<sup>1</sup>

7. On December 8, 2009, the BMIS Trustee sent Ms. Thuna the Determination Letter disallowing her claim in its entirety on the basis that “[she is] not a customer of BLMIS under SIPA as that term is defined at 15 U.S.C. § 7811(2).” *See* Determination Letter (Exhibit A).

### **OBJECTION**

8. Ms. Thuna hereby objects to the Determination Letter on the basis that she should not be deprived of the opportunity to have her claim addressed simply because The Popham Company has not filed a customer claim or has otherwise failed to prosecute or defend any claim against the debtor.

9. First Objection. Normally, bankruptcy law prevents parties whose claims are derived from the claim of a creditor from seeking to recover on such derived claims from the debtor. Such rules are designed to prevent duplicate recoveries arising from what amounts to a single legal claim. *See* Bankruptcy Code §§ 502(e), 509. However, bankruptcy law also recognizes that the derivative claimant should be permitted to file such a claim when the direct creditor fails or refuses to file a claim since, in such cases, there is no risk of a double recovery. For example, bankruptcy law provides that “[i]f a creditor does not timely file a proof of such creditor’s claim, an entity that is liable to such creditor with the debtor, or that has secured such creditor, may file a proof of such claim.” *See* Bankruptcy Code § 501(b); *see also* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3005(a). These principles apply here, and it is only appropriate and equitable that Ms.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Court’s Order dated October 20, 2009 [Dkt. No. 533], Claimant’s personal identification data has been redacted from Exhibit B.

Thuna's customer claim be considered in the place of BMIS customer The Popham Company when The Popham Company has sat on its own rights, which has, by extension, deprived Ms. Thuna of her rights. Moreover, there is no danger of a double recovery because The Popham Company failed to file its claim by the July 2, 2009 bar date and its claim is thus barred.

10. Second Objection. The BMIS Trustee has encouraged all those who lost money due to the Madoff Ponzi scheme to file customer claim forms. This includes investors such as Ms. Thuna who invested "indirectly" with BMIS. The BMIS Trustee has clearly contemplated a scenario whereby "indirect" investors, such as Ms. Thuna, would be entitled to have their claims allowed and/or paid in this proceeding. To the extent that any such "indirect" claims are allowed and/or "indirect" claimants are deemed "customers" under SIPA by virtue of the present statute, any amended statute, any decision or ruling of any administrative agency, any decision or ruling by SIPC or the Madoff Trustee, or any decision or order of any court, she reserves the right to challenge any determination of her claim by the BMIS Trustee.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

11. For the reasons stated herein, Ms. Thuna's claim should be allowed insofar as it is part of The Popham Company's claim.

12. To the extent Ms. Thuna's claim is deemed to be filed on behalf of The Popham Company, Ms. Thuna reserves the right to supplement her claim and submit further objections to any Determination of Claim directed to her, including, but not limited to, the right to object to the BMIS Trustee's method of calculating "net equity" or other objections to the method by which the BMIS Trustee has calculated the amount of the claim.

13. Ms. Thuna requests such other relief as may be just and equitable.

**CONCLUSION**

14. Ms. Thuna reserves the right to revise, supplement, or amend this Objection, and any failure to object on a particular ground or grounds shall not be construed as a waiver of Ms. Thuna's right to object on any additional grounds.

15. Ms. Thuna reserves all rights set forth Rule 9014, including, without limitation, rights of discovery. *See* Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9014.

16. Ms. Thuna reserves all objections as to the competence, relevance, materiality, privilege, or admissibility of evidence in any subsequent proceeding or trial of this or any other action for any purpose whatsoever.

17. Ms. Thuna incorporates by reference all reservations of rights set forth in Ms. Thuna's Customer Claim.

Dated: January 12, 2010

/s/ Jonathan M. Landers  
MILBERG LLP  
Jonathan M. Landers  
Matthew Gluck  
Brad N. Friedman  
Sanford P. Dumain  
Jennifer L. Young  
One Pennsylvania Plaza, 48th Fl.  
New York, NY 10119  
Telephone: (212) 594-5300  
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